

REPORT
— OF THE —
SELECTMEN OF CROYDON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1878.

DISBURSEMENTS.

PAID FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, Sylvester G. Walker,	\$ 62 82	
“ “ 2, John Blanchard,	203 64	
“ “ 3, Addison Cutting,	125 50	
“ “ 4, Alfred Cutting,	58 77	
“ “ 5, M. S. Fletcher,	49 77	
“ “ 6, Hiram M. Austin,	51 96	
“ “ 9, Epaphras Paul,	8 78	
“ “ 10, B. F. Goss,	10 95	
Hurd & Rowell,	14 42	
		\$586 61
Paid State Tax,	\$532 00	
Paid County Tax,	568 48	
		\$1,100 48
Paid Jesse Morse, for plank,	\$16 08	
Caleb Putnam, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	2 00	
J. S. Elkins, returning births and deaths,	1 25	
Williams Barton, returning births and deaths,	1 75	
D. M. Currier, returning births and deaths,	1 00	
B. C. Whipple, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	3 50	
H. W. Fletcher, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	6 00	
Henry W. Fletcher, work on road,	1 00	
Dixi Jacobs, breaking road,	1 50	
Amos Spaulding, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	2 00	
E. D. Comings, breaking roads in 1875, 1876 and 1877,	18 25	
E. A. Nutting, breaking road,	3 75	
A. D. Heath, damage done his turkeys by dogs, 1876,	3 50	

Paid W. W. Partridge, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	2 50
Error in Simon Cheney tax,	1 00
Elias Hurd, damage done his horse on the highway,	100 00
Albina Hall, making pauper depositions,	3 00
O. Cooper, watering trough on the highway,	3 00
Otis Cooper, for plank and timber,	1 38
F. Barton, work on road,	9 50
F. Dodge, plank,	64
F. Dodge, breaking road,	2 55
W. W. Partridge, breaking road,	1 00
M. S. Fletcher, plank,	1 00
M. S. Fletcher, breaking road,	1 00
G. H. Jacobs, breaking wagons,	5 00
G. H. Jacobs, work on road,	2 00
Alfred Cutting, plank,	1 07
Alfred Cutting, breaking road,	1 30
W. R. Bartlett, breaking road,	1 85
H. W. Fletcher, breaking roads,	2 00
John Harding, breaking road,	50
James W. Davis, breaking roads,	1 50
Gilman Stockwell, school-house tax in Dist. No. 6,	30 00
Gilman Stockwell, work on road,	4 00
Gilman Stockwell, breaking road,	3 00
O. C. Kibby, highway tax paid in labor,	1 71
W. R. Bartlett, plank and timber,	9 94
W. R. Bartlett, six stringers and two cap pieces for bridge,	22 50
Reuben Cooper, for storing hearse,	3 00
E. H. Cheney, balance due on last year's report account,	2 00
Hubbard Barton, posting school laws,	2 00
Addison Cutting, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	6 00
S. Rowell, plank,	4 80
J. C. Crooker, watering trough on the highway,	3 00
Ruel Durkee, plank and timber for bridges,	15 50
Bounty on hawks,	1 20
Bounty on foxes,	10 00
John C. Loverin, breaking roads,	1 50
J. C. Loverin, breaking wagon on the road,	1 25

Paid M. S. Fletcher, breaking road,	5 00	
Chas. Rowell, breaking roads,	3 00	
Sylvester Rowell, breaking road,	1 50	
Daniel Ryder, Jr., breaking road,	4 50	
Charles Davis, breaking roads,	6 20	
W. W. Ryder, breaking roads,	4 00	
L. P. Cooper, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1876,	18 00	
Printing this Report,	10 00	
Stationery and postage,	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$386 97
Repairing hearse,		62 50

OPENING GRAVES.

Paid George Angell, opening 3 graves,	\$5 50	
B. F. Haven, opening grave,	2 00	
W. W. Hall, opening 3 graves,	6 00	
	<hr/>	\$13 50
Paid for support of paupers,	\$719 02	\$719 02
Paid Ruel Durkee, Selectman and Treas.,	\$35 00	
William W. Ryder, Selectman,	20 00	
Frederick Barton, Selectman,	15 00	
Alonzo Allen, Town Clerk,	15 00	
Hubbard Barton, S. S. Committee,	25 00	
O. C. Forehand, Collector of Taxes,	35 00	
	<hr/>	\$145 00

THE SELECTMEN HAVE CREDITED THE TOWN AS
FOLLOWS:

Received of the County of Sullivan for the support of paupers,		\$719 02
By list of taxes delivered collector,	\$2,415 35	
Literary Fund,	68 80	
Savings Bank Tax,	378 59	
Interest on school notes,	57 80	
Last year's Treasurer,	96 02	
	<hr/>	\$3,016 56
Total amount received,		\$3,735 58
Total amount paid out,		3,014 08
		<hr/>
Leaving a balance in the treasury of		\$721 50

Which is respectfully submitted.

RUEL DURKEE,	} Selectmen of Croydon.
WILLIAM W. RYDER,	
FREDERICK BARTON,	

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Agreeably to the requirements of the law, the following report of the public schools of Croydon, for the year commencing March, 1877, and ending March, 1878, is respectfully submitted :

In the past year the public schools of the town have enjoyed an excellent degree of prosperity. While perfection is not claimed for them, it affords your committee pleasure to report that no school, in its general results, during any term, has fallen below a mediocre standard of success. Teachers, without exception, have been well qualified for the positions they have occupied ; pupils, as a rule, have been courteous, obedient, and faithful, in the discharge of their duties ; and parents, as a whole, have manifested more than their usual interest in their district school.

The increasing interest in your schools by parents and others is an encouraging omen. The standing of the public schools of a community can usually be measured by its educational sentiments. This principle is often verified, in part, in those instances in which a rebellious spirit manifests itself in the school-room. It is a fact patent to the candid observer that, in a majority of such cases, the insubordination is traceable to outside influence, or at least, to the neglect of parents or guardians to perform those duties obligatory upon them. Instead of abetting, either directly or by implication, any disposition of the pupil to pursue a rebellious course, it is the solemn and imperative duty of the parent—a duty that he owes not only to the school, but to himself, as teacher and governor of his child, to instruct him in the observance of the most implicit obedience while under the charge of the teacher. In the language of an eminent educator, “The pupil should be taught and made to believe that all school regulations and laws are based upon *authority*—authority vested in the office of the teacher, which is

his not to withhold, but to execute. This is the very germ and only foundation of good government. Let it be distinctly understood that persuasion may never take the place of authority. In school management, as a means of preventing evil, we may persuade, invite, and win; we may allure by kind treatment, at any time, when the necessity of subordination is not questioned by the pupil, or after he has been subdued by authority. But kindness cannot supply the place of authority. Obedience is not a voluntary compliance with a request, but a hearty response to acknowledged authority—an implicit yielding to a command. The pupil must not wait the dictates of inclination or feeling before he yields, but promptly obey. In the language of another, 'This is a government, not of persuasion, not of reasons assigned, not of the will of a majority, but of one master. From his decision there may be an appeal, but disobedience NEVER.' "

The following is a detailed statement respecting each term of school.

DIST. NO. 1.—*Summer*. This school during the summer term was taught by Miss Ella V. Walker. It was her first essay at teaching, but she succeeded finely. The closing exercises of the school were very interesting, evincing correct instruction and good improvement. Miss Walker fully demonstrated her ability to win success in the capacity of teacher.

Winter. In the winter the school was under the tuition of Mr. Fred W. Putnam. Although it was his first experience in teaching, yet his efforts were attended with unusually good success. The term was short, being only eight weeks, but the *per cent.* of improvement that was made, is very seldom equaled; while the order and general management were such that no exception could be taken to them.

DIST. NO. 2.—*Summer*. The term was conducted by Mrs. Harriet G. Clough. Mrs. Clough is a teacher of fine ability and long experience in the school-room, and the results of this efficiency were very manifest at the closing examination of her school. The degree of improvement in all the branches pursued was excellent.

Fall. Mrs. Clough was again employed. The term opened favorably, but at the expiration of three weeks, the teacher was obliged to discontinue the school on account of a severe illness.

Winter. The Rev. W. W. LeSeur officiated as teacher, and a good school was the result.

The concluding exercises of the final examination, which occurred in the evening in the form of an exhibition, were highly entertaining, and evinced considerable proficiency, on the part of the pupils, in the pleasing art of elocution.

DIST. NO. 3.—*Summer.* Miss Eva A. Gilman, a lady who had previously had charge of the school during several terms, was selected to teach. It is sufficient to remark that the success which usually characterizes the work of this well-known teacher was attained. As a token of respect and appreciation for valuable services rendered, her pupils presented her with a nice silver school bell on the last day of the term.

Fall. The school was under the management of Miss Emily Leavitt, who, for many years, has enjoyed a high reputation as a teacher of youth. The examination of her school at its close was highly satisfactory. The classes in their different studies acquitted themselves with much credit, affording ample evidence of good progress, and of rare excellence in the quality of the instruction.

DIST. NO. 4.—*Summer.* This term—Miss Augusta A. Colby, teacher—was completely successful. The skill, experience, and good general ability of the teacher, were brought into requisition, and a very commendable degree of advancement, the whole school was the fruit of her labors.

Winter. The school was under the instruction of Miss Nellie L. Clough. A lady of culture and refinement, who does not believe in shams—but in honest work. She slightes nothing and shrinks from no task that can profit her pupils. Comprehending the wants of the school at its opening, and working with a will, her labors were attended with that success so well deserved by every faithful worker.

DIST. NO. 5.—*Winter.* But one term of school was had in this district. Miss Francelia M. Cutting was the teacher. At

the commencement of the term the teacher experienced considerable difficulty with one or two of her pupils, which materially impaired the usefulness of the school for the time being. There was no just cause for the manifestation of this disturbing element, but the disobedience was persisted in until legal action became necessary. At the close of the first fortnight of the term, one pupil was unconditionally expelled, and another, whose offence was of less magnitude, and upon whose youthful mind wrong influences may have been exerted, was suspended to a time when a voluntary promise of good behavior should be given. The examination that the school passed at its close was *prima facie* proof of a very profitable term of study. The decorum of all the pupils was consistent with true school-room dignity, and kindly feelings evidently prevailed between them and their teacher. Miss Cutting is a person whose affable manner and bearing are well suited to win the esteem of her pupils, and she has enjoyed a good share of success in the vocation of teaching.

DIST. No. 6.—*Summer and Fall.* Miss M. Tillie Putnam was in charge of this school during both terms. At the commencement and close of each term the school was carefully inspected, and found to have been highly profitable. The order was unexceptionable. The pupils exhibited readiness in answering questions, and an intelligent understanding of the subjects studied. In every exercise lively interest was manifested, and each pupil gave evidence in recitation that good work had been accomplished.

In concluding his sixth annual report, and dissolving his connection with your public schools, your committee begs leave to return grateful acknowledgments to his fellow townsmen for the confidence they have reposed in him, and to teachers and pupils his sincere thanks for those courtesies which it has been their pleasure to bestow.

HUBBARD A. BARTON.

Tabular View of Schools.

No. of District.	Terms—1 Summer, 2 Fall, 3 Winter.		Names of Teachers.	Length of School in Weeks.	Whole Attendance.		Average Attendance.	No. not Attending.	No. in Reading.	No. in Spelling.	No. in Penmanship.	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Grammar.	No. in Geography.	Wages of Teacher.
1	1		Ella V. Walker.	6	12	10	0	12	12	3	9	2	4	18	00
	3		Fred W. Putnam.	8	22	20	0	22	22	5	20	8	5	32	00
2	1		Harriet G. Clough.	8	28	26		28	28	14	25	6	7	26	80
	2		Harriet G. Clough.	3	38	36		38	37	20	34	12	8	26	80
	3		Rev. W. W. LeSeur.	12	45	37	7	45	45	41	40	20	16	33	00
3	1		Eva A. Gilman.	10	20	17	3	20	20	10	18	5	12	22	00
	2		Emily Leavitt.	10	22	21	5	22	22	12	19	9	14	24	00
4	1		Augusta A. Colby.	8	11	9	4	11	11	7	9	2	2	21	00
	3		Nellie L. Clough.	11	24	21	1	24	24	17	22	4	6	19	32
5	3		Francelia M. Cutting.	9	11	10	1	11	11	3	10	4	1	28	00
6	1		M. Tillie Putnam.	6	12			12	12	7	10	2	2	18	00
	2		M. Tillie Putnam.	10	14	12	0	14	14	10	13	2	2	20	00